

MOUNT. CARMEL

A GOD WHO CAN BE TRUSTED

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Elijah the prophet was a country boy from a little town so small that scholars are not even sure of its exact location. In other words, Elijah was from the backside of nowhere.

In Elijah, God chose a man with no formal education. His family was not well off or highly respected. He was not super talented or super gifted. He was just a normal person.

But despite Elijah's seeming insignificance, his life serves as a perfect reminder to every one of us here today, that God still uses ordinary people.

In fact, that is the kind of people that God uses the most. People that are full of themselves have too much pride for God to use, so He looks for people like Elijah, people like Gideon, people who are just normal people, with normal problems and shortcomings. Those are the kind of people that God chooses to use the most.

However, before God used Elijah in a powerful way, he first led him through a period of brokenness. Before he climbed the mountain, there was a valley that he had to go through first.

Elijah was born at a time in Israel's history when they were worshipping false gods. Yet the name Elijah means, "Jehovah is God." I don't know anything about his parents, but obviously, they understood who the one true God is.

Deut 6:4 Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord:

How many? One! Not two, not three, not a hundred different gods. There is only One God.

It was on Mount. Carmel, where the show down took place between the false prophets and the true prophet. Between the false gods and the One True God who could be trusted to answer by fire.

1 Kings 18:36-39 And it came to pass at the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near, and said, LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and of Israel, let it be known this day that thou art God in Israel, and that I am thy servant, and that I have done all these things at thy word. Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that this people may know that thou art the LORD God, and that thou hast turned their heart back again. Then the fire of the LORD fell, and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench. And when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces: and they said, The LORD, he is the God; the LORD, he is the God.